

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A method for safely logging on to a technical system by means of a user code stored in the system, comprising:

a) displaying a selection code having a plurality of graphics including a plurality of decoy selection graphics;

b) displaying a response code having a plurality of graphics including a plurality of decoy response graphics and a matching response graphic, the matching response graphic having at least one property that, according to the stored user code, is associated with at least one property of at least one of the plurality of graphics from the selection code;

c) receiving a selection of one of the plurality of graphics from the response code, ~~the selected graphic of the response code having at least one property that is associated with at least one property of at least one of the plurality of graphics from the selection code~~;

d) checking the selected graphic of the response code in accordance with a stored user code; and

e) logging on to the technical system upon checking that the selected graphic of the response code correlates with the stored user code.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the selection code and the response code are displayed simultaneously.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the selection code and the response code are displayed consecutively.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

repeating steps a), b), c), and d), prior to performing step e) and after changing at least one of the selection code and the response code, to generate a sequence of selected response code graphics;

wherein checking that the selected graphic of the response code correlates with the stored user code includes checking the sequence of selected response code graphics.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein steps a) through d) are repeated a number of times determined by the technical system.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
displaying a plurality of additional graphics in addition to the selection code.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27,
wherein the selection code and the additional graphics are grouped into units, each unit having an identifier; and

wherein at least one unit contains the selection code, and the user code includes the identifier of the at least one unit containing the selection code.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
displaying a plurality of additional graphics in addition to the response code.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29,
wherein the response code and the additional graphics are grouped into sets, each set having an identifier; and

wherein at least one set contains the response code, and the user code includes the identifier of the at least one set containing the response code.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein receiving the selection of the selected graphic of the response code comprises receiving the selection via a touch-screen.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein receiving the selection of the selected graphic of the response code comprises receiving the selection via a keyboard key associated with the selected graphic of the response code.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein at least one of the color, shape, pattern, and movement of at least one graphic of the response code is associated with at least one graphic of the selection code.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
repeating steps a) through d) upon determining that the selected graphic of the response code does not correlate with the stored user code.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein steps a) through d) may be performed at most a predetermined number of times.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the selected graphic of the response code is transmitted to the technical system for comparison with the user code in encrypted format.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein at least one of the selection code and the response code is displayed using an encrypted transmission.

38. (Currently Amended) A device for logging on to a technical system, the device comprising:

a display for displaying a selection code, the selection code including a plurality of graphics including a plurality of decoy graphics, the display further for displaying a response code, the response code including a plurality of graphics including a plurality of decoy response graphics and a matching response graphic, the matching response graphic having at least one property that, according to a stored user code, is associated with at least one property of at least one graphic of the selection code;

a first device for receiving a selection of at least one graphic from the response code, ~~the selected graphic of the response code having at least one property that, according to a stored user code, is associated with at least one property of at least one graphic of the selection code;~~ and

a second device for checking the selected graphic of the response code according to the stored user code, wherein the second device logs on to the technical system upon determining that the selected graphic from the response code correlates with the stored user code.

39. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 38, wherein the display is configured to display the selection code and the response code simultaneously.

40. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 38, wherein the first device includes a keyboard for receiving the selection of the selected graphic of the response code.

41. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 38, wherein the first device includes a touch-screen for receiving the selection of the selected graphic of the response code.

42. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 38, further comprising a third device for encrypting the transmission of at least one of the selected graphic of the response code, the response code, and the selection code.